

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-8 have been amended to more clearly point out the feature of the invention of the present application. New claims 9 and 10 have been added. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of the amendments and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Objection to the Specification

The title of the invention was objected to as not being descriptive. In order to expedite the present application, the title of the invention has been amended to “PORTABLE DATA STORAGE AND AUDIO REPRODUCTION APPARATUS.” Applicants also amended the claims in conformity with the amendment to the title of the invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that the new title is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. Accordingly, the amendment renders the objection moot.

Objection to the Claims

Claims 2 and 3 were objected to because of some informalities.

Applicants amended the phrase “in Claims 1” of claim 3 to “in Claim 1,” as requested by the Examiner. However, Applicants respectfully submit that the phrase “an FM radio” of claim 2 is correctly described.

Accordingly, the amendment renders the objection moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 4-6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Beckert et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,794,164). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Currently presented claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “a radio frequency transmitter for modulating the coded analog audio signal from said audio codec into a radio frequency signal and remotely transmitting the modulated radio frequency signal through a transmitting antenna, wherein said key input includes a radio frequency transmission key for turning on the operation of said radio frequency transmitter.”

Beckert et al. appears to disclose a vehicle computer system comprising a computer module which mounts to a stationary base unit of a housing that resides in a vehicle dashboard or other location, and a faceplate module that detachably connects the base unit. However, Beckert et al. does not disclose or suggest “a radio frequency transmitter for modulating a coded analog audio signal from an audio codec into a radio frequency signal and remotely transmitting the modulated radio frequency signal through a transmitting antenna,” and “a radio frequency transmission key for turning on the operation of the radio frequency transmitter,” as recited in claim 1.

Regarding this, the Examiner asserts that Beckert et al. discloses the radio frequency transmitter, referring to Fig. 3 (element 85) and col. 7, lines 60-66 of Beckert et al. However, Beckert et al. merely discloses that a cellular telephone 85 or an RF transceiver can optionally be attached to the faceplate (col. 6, lines 63-65), and that a CODEC 86 in conjunction with the cellular phone 85 can be configured to provide all cellular phone functionality independent of the

computer module 64 or to operate as a remote handset that communicates with the computer module 64 or other phone (col. 7, lines 3-7). In other words, the cellular phone 85 of Beckert et al. neither modulates a coded analog audio signal from an audio codec into a radio frequency signal nor remotely transmits the modulated radio frequency signal through a transmitting antenna, as the radio frequency transmitter recited in claim 1.

On the contrary, according to an exemplary embodiment of this invention, in case where the radio frequency transmission key on a key input unit 10 is operated by the user, the radio frequency transmitter 30 modulates a coded analog audio signal from an audio codec 26 into a radio frequency signal and remotely transmits the modulated radio frequency signal through a transmitting antenna 31 (page 12, lines 9-13 of the specification). This exemplary embodiment consequently has technical advantages that the present reproduction apparatus can reproduce a music file stored therein and remotely transmit it to a desired audio system containing an FM radio receiver by wireless as well as by wire (page 13, lines 7-9 of the specification).

Accordingly, the radio frequency transmitter recited in claim 1 is distinguished from the cellular phone of Beckert et al. Therefore, it is believed that the rejection of claim 1 is not sustainable and a withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 4-6 and 8 are dependent claims which include all the limitations of claim 1, and therefore would not have been anticipated by Beckert et al. at least because of their dependency from the independent claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Beckert et al. in view of Terui et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,903,871) in further view of Bertino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,481,645).

Terui et al. appears to teach a voice recording and/or reproducing apparatus which includes an operating portion comprising a play button, a stop button, a fast forwarding button, a menu button, an up button, a down button, an erasing button and an index search button (col. 13, line 59 to col. 14, line 2). Bertino et al. appears to teach a portable computer having a fast forward key to move a marker quickly on to the last location of the selected partition and a rewind key to move the marker quickly back to the first location of the memory partition (col. 6, lines 23-28).

However, Terui et al. and Bertino et al. do not teach or suggest “a radio frequency transmitter for modulating a coded analog audio signal from an audio codec into a radio frequency signal and remotely transmitting the modulated radio frequency signal through a transmitting antenna,” and “a radio frequency transmission key for turning on the operation of the radio frequency transmitter,” as recited in claim 1.

As mentioned above, Beckert et al. neither teaches nor suggests the features recited in independent claim 1, and Terui et al. and Bertino et al. do not remedy all of the deficiencies of Beckert et al. Therefore, it would not have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to reach the invention described in claim 1 even by combining Terui et al. and Bertino et al. into

Beckert et al., and claim 2 is patentable over Beckert et al. in view of Terui et al. in further view of Bertino et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 2.

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Beckert in view of Park (U.S. Patent No. 5,142,281).

Park appears to teach a vehicle mounted apparatus of an automatic vehicle location system playing a role for transmitting a vehicle location signal to a control center in response to a reference signal from the control center (col. 1, lines 21-25). However, Park also does not teach or suggest “a radio frequency transmitter for modulating a coded analog audio signal from an audio codec into a radio frequency signal and remotely transmitting the modulated radio frequency signal through a transmitting antenna,” and “a radio frequency transmission key for turning on the operation of the radio frequency transmitter,” as recited in claim 1.

As mentioned above, Beckert et al. neither teaches nor suggests the features recited in independent claim 1, and Park does not remedy all of the deficiencies of Beckert et al. Therefore, it would not have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to reach the invention described in claim 1 even by combining Park into Beckert et al., and claim 3 is patentable over Beckert et al. in view of Park. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 3.

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Beckert in view of Wells et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,870,683).

Wells et al. appears to teach a wireless mobile station, such as a cellular telephone, which executes a method to selectively display one of a plurality of graphical information sequences on

a display of the mobile station (abstract). However, Wells et al. also does not teach or suggest “a radio frequency transmitter for modulating a coded analog audio signal from an audio codec into a radio frequency signal and remotely transmitting the modulated radio frequency signal through a transmitting antenna,” and “a radio frequency transmission key for turning on the operation of the radio frequency transmitter,” as recited in claim 1.

As mentioned above, Beckert et al. neither teaches nor suggests the features recited in independent claim 1, and Wells et al. does not remedy all of the deficiencies of Beckert et al. Therefore, it would not have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to reach the invention described in claim 1 even by combining Wells et al. into Beckert et al., and claim 7 is patentable over Beckert et al. in view of Wells et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 7.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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